in India to evaluate the courses, syllabi, standards and credits of foreign universities and to equate them in relation to various courses offered by Indian universities.

(b) The AIU is mainly concerned with the recognition of Degrees/ Diplomas awarded by the accredited universities in India and abroad for purpose of admission to higher courses at Indian universities. The AIU is also an implementing agency for the agreements signed under the Cultural Exchange Programme executed between India and other countries in the field of education, in so far as it relates to the recognition of foreign qualifications (except for medicine and allied courses).

(c) Does not arise.

Appalling conditions of primary schools in Bihar

407. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has given directive to the State Government regarding the appalling conditions of primary schools in Bihar;

(b) if so, how the State Government plan to improve the conditions of primary schools;

(c) whether it is due to lack of funds or any other reason which has lead to this deteriorating situation of the primary schools in Bihar; and

(d) what assistance Government plan to give to the State of Bihar to manage the primary schools well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) As per information received from Government of Bihar, no such directive has been issued by Supreme Court.

(d) Government of India has approved an amount of Rs. 28267.23 lakhs for 2002-03 for 37 districts of Bihar under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, of which Government of India's share is Rs. 21200.42 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 7828.20 lakhs has already been released to the Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad on 22.1.2003 as the 1st instalment. Further under District Primary Education Programme targeting primary education in 20

districts, an outlay of Rs. 13249.34 lakhs has been approved in 2002-03, of which Government of India's share is Rs. 11261.94 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 6400 lakhs has been sanctioned so far under District Primary Education Programme. Further an amount of Rs. 319.50 lakhs has been released to the scheme under Teacher Education. Similarly 2428734 quintals of food grains has been allocated to Bihar under Mid-Day Meal scheme this year.

Guidelines on harassment of female students

408. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that JNU students union has accused the JNU Administration regarding shielding two Faculty Members held guilty of harassing female students by University's Gender Sanitisation Committee last year on the plea that GSCASH rules and regulations are yet to be ratified whereas students have been expelled on the basis of GSCASH reports earlier; and

(b) if so, why this double standard has been adopted in such sensitive matter which may cause major confrontation and whether Government are thinking of issuing general guidelines in such matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Jawarharlal Nehru University (JNU) One Assistant Professor and a Technical Officer were held guilty by the University Gender Sensitisation Committee against Sexual Harassment (GSCASH). The Executive Council of the University, which is the appointing as well the disciplinary authority in the case of teachers considered the enquiry report of GSCASH in its meeting held on 22.1.2003 and resolved that the responses of the complainant and the accused to the GSCASH report, alongwith other representations received in this regard, may be referred back to the Committee against Sexual Harassment for obtaining their views and comments which the Committee has agreed to submit in a time bound manner. In the case of the Technical Officer, the Vice-Chancellor who is the disciplinary authority has, after careful consideration of all the aspects of the case, decided to impose a major penalty of Compulsory Retirement with forfeiture of 15% gratuity.